

Mission West Virginia, Inc.

Organization Description

Mission West Virginia is a non-profit organization that collaborates with public and private entities, particularly faith communities, equipping them to utilize existing resources to form new partnerships, encouraging innovative social change, and building stronger communities in West Virginia. Established in 1997, Mission West Virginia has been recognized throughout the State for innovative and effective intermediary services on behalf of the disadvantaged and disenfranchised.

Project Description

Created in partnership with the West Virginia Council of Churches and the United Way of Central West Virginia, Mission West Virginia's Wellspring Center will work to build the capacity of faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) to access resources that foster sustainability and to better serve those in need. These populations in need include (but are not limited to): families in poverty, prisoners re-entering local communities, children of prisoners, addicts, families in transition from welfare to work, individuals with low levels of literacy, at-risk youth, and children in foster care.

Geographic Scope of Project

19 Selected Counties of West Virginia.

Sub-Awards

Sub-awards will be granted to a diverse set of FBCOs that seek to

increase their capacity to serve those in need. Mission West Virginia anticipates awarding \$90,000 to approximately 22 organizations in three grant tiers: 10 awards of \$2000; 10 awards of \$5,000; and 2 awards of \$10,000. Organizations eligible for sub-awards include FBCOs that have not received past federal funding, have budgets below \$500,000, and are located in the targeted project area.

Project Objectives

1. Increase the effectiveness of FBCOs to provide social services;
2. Assist FBCOs to expand their organizations through the use of computer technology;
3. Increase the ability of FBCOs to create collaborations to better serve those in need;
4. Build the capacity of FBCOs to access resources that foster sustainability.
5. Encourage the organizations to work together in a network;
6. Evaluate the results of the program and present findings as a model for other locales.

Project Strategies

The project strategy includes the following six-phase plan:

- Announce the resources of the Wellspring Center;
- Collect data on FBCOs in the service area and centralize a database;
- Analyze data results, refine and implement the training and technical assistance strategy to enhance FBCOs capacity;

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- Issue sub-awards in three tiers;
- Provide long-term, on-going technical assistance to the sub-awardees;
- Evaluate project and sub-awardees.

Grant Award Amount

\$359,240



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